

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card, comprising:

a storage device that stores a plurality of image data, a plurality of music data, and a plurality of advertisement data, respectively for creating the music card;

a receiver that receives a request from a card sender via a network;

a card creating device that creates, in accordance with the request, the music card by selecting an image data and a music data from the plurality of image data and the plurality of music data stored in said storage device;

an advertisement appending device that appends at least one advertisement data among the plurality of advertisement data stored in said storage device to the music card, if either the selected image data or music data is fee-charged; and

a transmitter that transmits the music card free of charge by appending ~~appended with~~ the advertisement data to a card and transmitting said card to a card receiver via the network.

2. (Original) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card according to claim 1, wherein said receiver receives an advertisement data transmitted from an advertiser, and the advertisement data stored in said storage device are advertisement data transmitted from said advertiser,

further comprising an advertiser charging device that charges an advertisement fee to said advertiser if said advertisement appending device appends said advertisement data transmitted from said advertiser.

3. (Original) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card according to claim 1, wherein the music data is a MIDI data.

4. (Original) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card according to claim 1, wherein the network is the Internet.

5. (Original) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card according to claim 1, further comprising a notice mail transmitter that transmits a notice mail to the card receiver, the notice mail notifying that the music card was created and saying a method of displaying the music card.

6. (Original) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card according to claim 5, wherein the notice mail is an Internet mail and the method of displaying the music card includes a URL of the Internet.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for appending an advertisement to a music card, comprising:

storage means for storing a plurality of image data, a plurality of music data, and a plurality of advertisement data, respectively for creating the music card;

receiving means for receiving a request from a card sender via a network;

card creating means for creating, in accordance with the request, the music card by selecting an image data and a music data from the plurality of image data and the plurality of music data stored in said storage means;

advertisement appending means for appending at least one advertisement data among the plurality of advertisement data stored in said storage means to the music card, if either the selected image data or music data is fee-charged; and

transmitting means for transmitting the music card free of charge by appending ~~appended with~~ the advertisement data to a card and transmitting said card to a card receiver via the network.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for appending an advertisement to a music card by a network server having storage means for storing a plurality of image data, a plurality of music data, and a plurality of advertisement data, respectively for creating the music card, the method comprising the steps of;

(a) receiving a request from a card sender via a network;

(b) creating, in accordance with the request, the music card by selecting an image data and a music data from the plurality of image data and the plurality of music data stored in said storage means;

(c) appending at least one advertisement data among the plurality of advertisement data stored in said storage means to the music card, if either the selected image data or music data is fee-charged; and

(d) transmitting the music card free of charge by appending ~~appended with~~ the advertisement data to a card and transmitting said card to a card receiver via the network.

9. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program, which a computer executes to realize a process for appending an advertisement to a music card by a network server having storage means for storing a plurality of image data, a plurality of music data, and a plurality of advertisement data, respectively for creating the music card, the process comprising the instructions of;

(a) receiving a request from a card sender via a network;

(b) creating, in accordance with the request, the music card by selecting an image data and a music data from the plurality of image data and the plurality of music data stored in said storage means;

(c) appending at least one advertisement data among the plurality of advertisement data stored in said storage means to the music card, if either the selected image data or music data is fee-charged; and

(d) transmitting the music card free of charge by appending ~~appended with~~ the advertisement data to a card and transmitting said card to a card receiver via the network.